AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims replaces all prior versions of claims in the application.

1. (Original): Method for transmitting decryption codes for freely transmitted encrypted program contents and for automatically establishing billing data for the program contents with the following steps:

a) Setup of a connection to a service provider by a customer via his subscriber network;

b) Determination of the network terminating units (terminals) of the existing connection, in particular the calling party number of the customer and the called no. of the service provider;

c) Transmission of the decryption code for a program content;

d) Establishing of billing data using the network terminating unit (terminal), in particular the calling party number, the called no. of the service provider, and information about the requested program content.

2. (Currently amended): Method according to Claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the setup of the connection by the customer is executed by the dialing of a call number of the service provider and the acceptance of the telephone call by the service provider.

3. (Currently amended): Method according to Claim 1, ~~or 2, characterized in that~~ wherein at least one additional identification feature is retrieved from the caller during the period of the telephone call and before the transmission of the decryption code.

4. (Currently amended): Method according to Claim 3, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the validity of the identification features is checked, and the decryption code is transmitted only in the case of validity.

5. (Currently amended): Method according to Claim 3, ~~or 4, characterized in that~~ wherein the additional identification features include at least one of the following:

an age-related or personal identification code, an identification or device number of a decoder receiving the decryption code.

6. (Currently amended): Method according to Claim 4, ~~or 5, characterized in that~~ wherein the decryption code is generated specifically for the identified decoder and transmitted to this.

7. (Currently amended); Method according to ~~one of the preceding claims, characterized in that~~ claim 1, wherein the information about the identified calling party number is integrated in the decryption code.

8. (Currently amended): Method according to ~~one of the preceding claims, characterized in that~~ claim 1, wherein the program content for which the decryption code is to be sent is queried before the transmission of the decryption code.

9. (Currently amended): Method according to ~~one of the preceding claims, characterized in that~~ claim 1, wherein at least one of the following items of information is stored for the billing data, or forwarded to a corresponding billing unit: the called number, the time and/or duration of the telephone connection, the additional identification features and/or the transmitted decryption code.

10. (Currently amended): Method according to ~~one of the preceding claims, characterized in that~~ claim 1, wherein the billing data is forwarded to the telecommunication service provider for collection.

11. (Currently amended): Method according to ~~one of the preceding claims, characterized in that~~ claim 1, wherein the called number is a service number, which is billed via the telecommunication service provider.

12. (Original): Method for transmitting decryption codes for freely transmitted encrypted program contents to a registered subscriber group with the following steps:

a) Setup of a connection to a service provider by a customer via his subscriber network;

b) Determination of the network terminating units (terminals) of the existing connection, in particular the calling party number of the customer and the called no. of the service provider;

c) Checking of whether there is a registered access right to the decryption code for the customer's network terminating unit (terminal), in particular the calling party number;

d) Transmission of the decryption code if the access right exists.

13. (Currently amended): Method according to Claim 12, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the setup of the connection to the customers is executed by the dialing of a call number of the service provider and the acceptance of the telephone call by the service provider.

14. (Currently amended): Method according to Claim 12, ~~or 13, characterized in that~~ wherein as well as the network terminating unit (terminal) or the call number, at least one additional identification feature is retrieved from the caller.

15. (Currently amended): Method according to Claim 14, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the additional identification feature includes at least one age-related or personal identification code and/or an identification code of a decoder receiving the decryption code.

16. (Currently amended): Method according to Claim 14, ~~or 15, characterized in that~~ wherein the information about the identified calling party number and/or the receiving decoder is integrated in the decryption code.

17. (Currently amended): Method according to ~~one of the Claims 12 to 16, characterized in that~~ claim 12, wherein the program content for which the decryption code is needed is queried for the transmission of the decryption code.

18. (Currently amended): Method according to ~~one of the claims 12 to 17, characterized in that~~ claim 12, wherein the calling party number and information relating to the program contents for which the decryption code was transmitted are stored and/or forwarded to an appropriate unit for billing purposes.

19. (Currently amended): Method according to Claim 17, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein at least one of the following items of information is stored and/or forwarded for billing purposes: the called number, the time and/or duration of the telephone call, the additional identification features and/or transmitted decryption code.

20. (Original): Device for transmitting decryption codes for freely transmitted decrypted program contents and for automatic billing of the same, the device having the following: a unit for establishing a connection between a customer and a service provider over a subscriber network of the customer, in particular a telephone connection between a customer and a service provider;

a unit for determining the network terminating units (terminals) of the existing connection between the customer and the service provider, in particular the calling party number of the customer and the called no. of the service provider;

a unit for transmitting the decryption code; and

a unit for storing and/or forwarding billing data, consisting of the network terminating units (terminals), in particular the call no. of the customer and the called number of the service provider, and information about the program content for which the decryption code was transmitted.

21. (Currently amended): Device according to Claim 20, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein a comparator unit is provided for comparing a received item of information with stored information.

22. (Original): Device for transmitting decryption codes for freely transmitted encrypted program contents to a registered subscriber group, said device comprising:

a unit for establishing a connection between a customer and a service provider over a subscriber network of the customer, in particular a telephone connection between a customer and a service provider;

a unit for determining the network terminating units of the existing connection between the customer and the service provider, in particular the calling party number of a customer and the called no. of the service provider;

a memory unit for storing data of a registered subscriber group with its respective network terminating units (terminals), in particular its call numbers;

a unit for comparing the network terminating units (terminals), in particular the established call numbers with the registered data; and

a unit for transmitting the decryption code.

23. (Currently amended): Device according to Claim 22, ~~characterized by~~ wherein a unit for storing and/or forwarding billing data, consisting of at least the customer's call number, the called no. of the service provider and information about the program content for which the decryption code was transmitted.

24. (Currently amended): Device according to Claim 22, or 23, characterized in that wherein a comparator unit is provided for comparing a received item of information with stored information.

25. (Original): System for decrypting freely transmitted encrypted program contents, the system having the following:

a receiver unit for receiving the encrypted program content;

a unit for establishing a connection between a customer and a decryption code transmission unit of a service provider over a subscriber network of the customer;

a memory for storing a decryption code transmitted over the connection; and

a decoder for decrypting the encrypted program content with the help of the decryption code.

26. (Currently amended): System according to Claim 25, characterized in that wherein the connection is a telecommunication link.

27. (Currently amended): System according to Claim 25, or 26, characterized in that wherein the system comprises a memory for storing information for the connection setup, in particular for storing a telephone number to be called.

28. (Currently amended): System according to one of Claims 25 to 27, characterized in that claim 25, wherein the system comprises a unit for input of information for the connection setup, in particular a telephone number to be called and/or additional information.

29. (Currently amended): System according to Claim 28, characterized in that wherein the unit comprises a remote control of the decoder.

30. (Currently amended): System according to Claim 28, ~~characterized in that~~ <u>wherein</u> the unit comprises an interactive terminal device, in particular a telephone.

31. (Currently amended): System according to ~~one of Claims 25 to 30, characterized in that~~ <u>claim 25, wherein</u> an error detection unit is provided, which detects whether the stored decryption code correctly decodes a desired program content.

32. (Currently amended): System according to ~~one of Claims 25 to 31, characterized in that~~ <u>claim 25, wherein</u> the system includes a unit for automatic setup of a connection and for retrieval of a decryption code at preset times.

33. (Currently amended): System according to ~~one of Claims 25 to 32, characterized in that~~ <u>claim 25, wherein</u> the unit for establishing a connection, the memory for storing the decryption code, the memory for storing information for the connection setup, in particular a telephone number to be called, the input unit and/or the error detection unit are integrated in the decoder.

34. (Currently amended): System according to ~~one of Claims 25 to 33, characterized in that~~ <u>claim 25, wherein</u> the decoder contains a source code, which is combined with the decryption code to decode an encrypted signal.

35. (Currently amended): System according to Claim 34, ~~characterized in that~~ <u>wherein</u> the source code of the decoder is stored on a non-overwritable storage medium.